



Miami Art Museum

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**MIAMI ART MUSEUM NAMES TERENCE RILEY,
A CHIEF CURATOR OF NEW YORK'S MUSEUM OF MODERN ART,
AS ITS NEW DIRECTOR**

MIAMI -- Having just taken one giant step toward becoming a major force in the international art world with the recent passage of a \$100 million bond issue for the creation of a new facility at Museum Park, the Miami Art Museum (MAM) today sent another strong signal of its intent to be world class by hiring Terence Riley, a longtime chief curator at New York's Museum of Modern Art, to become its new director.

Riley, 51, has served as a chief curator of The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York since 1992. He will assume the position of director on March 15; however, he will begin familiarizing himself with the museum and his duties prior to this date.

"New York City and The Museum of Modern Art are well-established centers for art, and I've enjoyed my work there immensely, but Miami is truly on the verge of greatness in the art world, and its prominence is growing every day," said Riley. "The entire art world knows that Miami and MAM are on the cusp of becoming leading centers for art internationally, and the opportunity to lead MAM at this moment in time is both compelling and exciting," he said.

Riley said he will develop an ambitious permanent collection strategy through a sound, strategic approach to growth. He will also spearhead the museum's fundraising program, and oversee the planning and development of a new state-of-the-art Museum Park facility and sculpture garden on Biscayne Bay. Riley will report to the Museum's Board of Trustees.

“Terry Riley is an internationally recognized curator who has helped strengthen and expand one of the world’s most prominent museums, and his success and knowledge will bring tangible benefits for MAM, Museum Park, and for the entire Miami community,” said Mary Frank, president of the Board and a member of the search committee that selected the new director. “In Terry, we’ve chosen a leader who will help build the Miami Art Museum into a global center of art, culture and education.”

Named the Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design at MoMA in 2002 after serving as a chief curator for 10 years, Riley played a key role in the completion of major expansion efforts at the museum. He was involved in the planning, design, fund raising, and ultimately the successful launching of MoMA’s expanded and renovated 630,000 square foot facility, which opened to international acclaim a year ago. Riley began his museum career in 1989 while teaching at Columbia University. He directed the conversion of a historic building to become the university’s Arthur Ross Architecture Gallery, and subsequently served as the Gallery’s first director. In 1991, he became a curator in the department of architecture and design at MoMA and was appointed its chief curator the following year. In addition to strengthening the museum’s permanent collection and planning and executing important exhibitions on architecture and design, he has for many years served on the committee that develops the museum’s overall exhibition schedule in all media.

In 2002, he co-organized a symposium on Latin American architecture from 1929-1964. Co-sponsored by The Museum of Modern Art and the Parsons School of Design, the symposium brought together key figures from the United States and Latin America. He also worked with an international panel as well as various local leaders as a member of the jury that selected the architects for the Museo de Arte Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires, Argentina, one of the most successful museums of its kind.

Riley is a professional member of the American Institute of Architects, a trustee of the Fundació Mies van der Rohe in Barcelona, Spain, and an advisory board member of the Parsons Graduate School of Design. He has taught at Harvard University and Columbia University. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1978 with a degree in architecture, and has a master’s degree in architecture and urban planning from

Columbia University. He has worked as an architect in the United States and abroad. Riley has spent a great deal of time in Miami and recently finished building a home here.

MAM conducted a thorough nationwide search for the museum's new director, retaining the firm of Heidrick & Struggles for candidate assessment and background research. A 14-member search committee ultimately recommended Riley for the position and the Museum's Board approved his appointment.

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About MAM

Accredited by the American Association of Art Museums, Miami Art Museum is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts; with the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners.

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***Photo available upon request.**

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